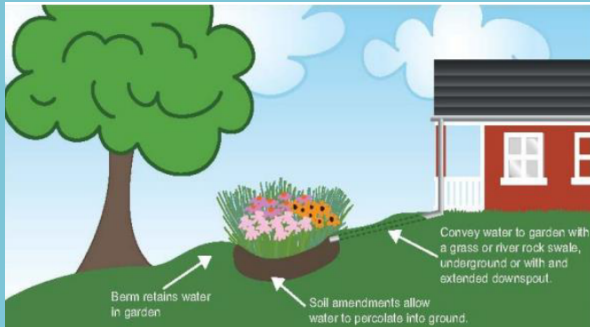


What is a Rain Garden?



A rain garden is a planted depression that includes native plants. These gardens take advantage of rain and stormwater runoff to capture and infiltrate stormwater and the sediment and pollutants that come with it. Rain gardens allow for about a 30% higher infiltration rate than a regular lawn, helping to recharge local aquifers. Additionally, they are aesthetically pleasing and provide habitat for birds and insects.



TIPPECANOE COUNTY
PARTNERSHIP FOR WATER QUALITY™

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Rain Gardens



**Filter stormwater runoff
before it enters local
waterways**

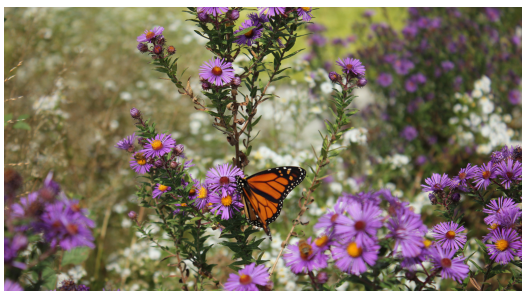
Why install a rain garden?

When it rains, do you ever find water puddling in your lawn or driveway? Do you want to help in reducing stormwater runoff and pollution of local waterways? Would you like to have a garden that does not require water once the plants are well established? Are you interested in creating habitat for birds and insects?

If you answered ye to one or more of those questions, installing a rain garden could be a great option for you!

By installing a rain garden, you can:

- Filter pollution from runoff
- Create habitat for birds and insects
- Remove standing water in your yard
- Improve water quality
- Boost sidewalk appeal
- Increase beneficial insects to remove pest insects



How much does a rain garden cost?

Rain gardens do not need to be expensive. If done yourself, the cost is typically between \$2 and \$5 per square foot. Buying soil and mulch in bulk would help reduce costs, along with buying smaller plants. If you hire a landscape consultant to do all the work, the total cost would be between \$10 and \$20 per square foot.

What will I need?

Tools:

- Tape measure
- Shovel
- Trowel
- Rake
- Carpenter's level
- Stakes/marketing flags
- String

Materials:

- Soil
- Mulch
- Native plants

Additional tools may be necessary depending on the size and location of your garden.

What maintenance is invoved?

While rain gardens do require some initial watering and weeding, once the plants are established after one to two growing seasons, maintenance is minimal. Springtime is the best time to install a rain garden. It is a good idea to keep the garden weeded for the first couple of growing seasons. Otherwise, adding mulch and soil when necessary, adding new plants as needed and removing dead plants are the only real maintenance required to keep your rain garden working well and looking good.



How can I install a rain garden?

For further instructions and resources, visit TippEcoNow.com.